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14. "Herbarium Suggestions."—Our friend, Dr. Gray, has kindly sent me some criticisms and suggestions with regard to the article that appeared in the last number of the Bulletin, under the above heading.

Dr. Gray says: "I intended that my Genus covers should be sixteen and a half inches long; the paper for species sixteen and three-eighths. I find that as much difference in length as will work well when the sheets are rather numerous in the same cover, and when they are shoved—as is usually done—quite back into their compartments. Your space of one-half inch will all be found in front, i. e., at the bottom margin. This does not look well, and the projecting margins are liable to become curled or dog-eared."

[I have not myself experienced any difficulty of this kind. F. J. B.]

Dr. Gray adds: "Again I find it best to have the Genus covers first folded in quarter quires or so, and then trimmed to twelve inches on the front edge. This makes the inner sheets a little narrower and with a sharper fold on the back,—advantages for small or monotypic genera, for which I reserve them; while the outer sheets, by their slightly greater width and the rounded fold at the back, are adapted for larger genera or sections." F. J. B.

15. Characeæ.—For some years I have been much interested in the study of our Characeæ, and especially since I have obtained the beautiful specimens issued by Braun, Rabenhorst, & Sitzenberger, by means of which I have been enabled to identify some species. I have received a few from Mr. C. C. Frost of Brattleboro, Vt., accurately named; and Mr. Le Roy has given me some specimens he has picked up. These, with my own collections, make but a beginning; and I should be glad to receive these interesting plants from all parts of the country, especially if collected when in fruit, or male and female plants when, as often, they are dioecious. In Europe as many as *fifty* different species, including a great number of varieties, are known, nearly one third of which belong to the genus *Nitella*. I have received great help from Prof. A. Braun of Berlin, who has named many species for me, and determined one new and beautiful variety—

1. *Nitella acuminata*, A. Br., var. *subglomerata*.—I have gathered at Morristown, N. J. Prof. Braun says it is not rare in the warmer parts of the United States, but is not found at all in Europe.
2. *Nitella polyglochin*, A. Br., var. *microcarpa*.—I have probably from New Jersey; this is not found in Europe.
3. *Nitella tennissima*, Desv.—was collected by Mr. Le Roy at Peekskill on the Hudson.
4. *Nitella syncarpa*, Thuill.—I have received from Mr. Frost of Brattleboro, Vt.
5. *Nitella capitata*, Nees ab E.—is quite common in the small streams on Long Island, appearing in the spring (as in Europe).
6. *Nitella flexilis*, L.—I have received from Mr. Frost. The variety *subcapitata* I find very abundant in Litchfield Lake, Ct.

7. *Nitella mucronata*, A. Br.—From Mr. Frost.
8. *Nitella gracilis*, Sm.—From Mr. Frost.
9. *Nitella batrachosperma*, A. Br.—From Mr. Frost.
10. *Chara coronata*, var. *Schweinitzii*, A. Br.—I have gathered in New Jersey, and have also received from Mr. Frost.
11. *Chara crinita*, Wallr.—I gathered in 1869, in brackish water Montauk Point, L. I. I found only female specimens. Prof. Braun says it has not before been known from America, and that in Europe the male plants are exceedingly rare and in the Baltic sea altogether wanting. He was interested in finding the next species mixed with it, as they are always associated in Europe.
12. *Chara aspera*, Willd.—with the last.
13. *Chara fragilis*, Desv. (*C. vulgaris*, L.)—common in Litchfield Lake, Ct., and in various localities; sent by Mr. Frost.
14. *Chara gymnopus*, var. *elegans*, A. Br., in litt.—found at Peekskill, N. Y., by Mr. Le Roy. Prof. Braun says that it approaches the var. *trichacantha* from Texas, S. C., and Florida. T. F. A.

16. *Gnaphalium polycephalum*, Mchx.—I have seen now and then in Westchester Co., but I think not very abundantly. I think it prefers a barren *limestone* soil; at least I have always seen it flourishing best in such soil.

Senecio aureus, L.—not the luxuriant typical form, but two forms rather depauperate, one of which I have marked var. *Balsamitæ*, I have found in considerable quantities on Staten Island.

I. H. H.

17. Judge G. W. Clinton, of Buffalo, had recently occasion to appeal to the Post Master General in relation to the postage of botanical specimens, and received the following decision.

"A liberal construction of the 222d section of the postal law would justify sending *Botanical Cuttings* at a lower rate of postage than letter rates, viz, 2 cents for each four ounces or fraction thereof, prepaid by stamps."

Of course the sender must vouch for their being no manuscript, and fasten the bundle by strings, or, if pasted, leave the end open, superscribing, "Botanical specimens."

18. *Anthers of Lemnæ*.—That the two anthers should expand at different times is very natural, as they represent two distinct flowers; that I always see: but I was surprised to find always the anterior or first stamen developed in my specimens of *Spirodela* from Staten Island; and now, since I learn that they were artificially raised, I suggest a better explanation than my previous one, viz, that from want of vitality under the circumstances only one, the first one, opened. In *Lemnæ* collected out of doors, "wild," I find sometimes one, sometimes the other fully developed; and, if the second or posterior one is just opening, the other is always effete and elongated, a condition which I have never seen in this *Spirodela*. After shedding pollen the second also elongates, as in water *Callitriches*. It will be interesting to find what time inter-